MG rail Lines in UP

†3272. SHRI MUNAVVAR HASAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the length in terms of kilometre of metre gauge railway line in Uttar Pradesh at present;

(b) the details of these lines, region-wise;

(c) whether some of these lines are lying damaged for many days;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) what steps Government propose to take for the reconstruction and restarting these railway lines in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) the length of metre gauge railway line (route kilometres) in Uttar Pradesh in 1771 kms. as on 31-3-2002 (latest available)

(b) Region-wise details of route kilometres within a State are not maintained.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Loan from ADB to Railways

3273. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Asian Development Bank has agreed to extend $ 600 million to the Indian Railways during 2002-2005;

(b) if so, whether they have attached preconditions for sanctioning the loan;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Railways have accepted these conditions; and

(e) if so, to what extent the Railways are implementing the projects after getting this loan from Asian Development Bank?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) Yes, Sir. Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved a loan of US$ 313.6 million during Dec., 02, for Railway sector improvement. The loan agreement has not yet been signed.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) to (d) The loan shall be available as per the provisions of a draft loan agreement to be entered into by Ministry of Finance, on behalf of Government of India. It has loan covenants relating to the Loan, Use of Proceeds of the Loan, Particular Covenants, Suspension, Cancellation, Acceleration of Maturity, Loan Effectiveness and Delegation of Authority. These conditions have been finalised between Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Railways and the ADB.

(e) The projects to be funded by ADB under this loan will be implemented by Rail Vikas Nigam Limited, a public sector company, set up to undertake the Golden Quadrilateral strengthening projects and other bankable projects under National Rail Vikas Yojana.

Recruitment SCR

3274. SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railway Board had given permission to the South Central Railway to take up recruitment of posts under Group D category to overcome shortage of manpower;

(b) whether the process of recruitment to these posts has been started;

(c) if so, when the recruitment is to be completed; and

(d) if not, the reasons for delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. South Central Railway have placed indent on Railway Recruitment Board, Secunderabad.

(c) Recruitment process is likely to be completed by March, 2004.

(d) Does not arise.

Restoration of narrow gauge rail lines in Gujarat

3275. SHRI MURLI DEORA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have been decided to restore five narrow gauge lines in Gujarat;